

## PORTLAND MENNONITE CHURCH (PMC) PHASED REOPENING GUIDELINES

Updated and Approved: June 9, 2021

At Portland Mennonite Church, we are actively striving to be a distinctively Christ-shaped community that is actively engaged in the compassion, shalom, and justice of the gospel. Consistent with our mission and in consultation with public health experts, PMC's Leadership Table has adopted these Guidelines to guide our decisions regarding church-sponsored in-person gatherings and facilities use during this time of global pandemic.

PMC's Phased Reopening Guidelines are intended to maintain the church's witness in the Hawthorne neighborhood and the broader city through an approach that seeks to "look not to our own interests, but to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4). As detailed below, PMC will follow (at a distance!) the State of Oregon's Guidance Based on County Risk Level in order to reduce the possibility that our congregation will be part of a resurgence of the virus due to reopening too quickly, and/or to reduce the possibility (and inherent confusion) of moving back-and-forth among the phases outlined below.

PMC's Leadership Table has created a workgroup to review and make recommendations to the Table, which will have the final authority and accountability regarding issues related to these Guidelines. The workgroup is composed of:

- Rod Stafford (Lead Pastor)
- Britt Carlson (Pastor of Community Life and neighborhood liaison)
- Dave Johnson (Leadership Table Chair)
- Ed Shirk (Facilities Elder)
- Jesse Hostetter Kropf (Public Health Expert)

This workgroup will be responsible for:

- Reviewing Oregon's [County Risk Level Report](#) – biweekly
- Gathering relevant information from PMC stakeholders and others (e.g., public health experts, PMC core ministries, Ministerios Restauracion, Sunnyside Mennonite Montessori School) – as needed
- Reviewing PMC's Phased Reopening Guidelines and making recommendations to the Leadership Table regarding changes to PMC's status (e.g., moving from "High Risk" to "Moderate Risk"), the design of the guidelines, and/or extraordinary exceptions – monthly or as needed
- Communicating relevant information to the congregation and other stakeholders – monthly or as needed

## EXTREME RISK

**PMC will operate under this guidance when one or more of the counties in the Metro area (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) are at Extreme or High Risk.**

PMC's meetinghouse is closed to all groups. All synchronous church activities take place online.

## HIGH RISK

**PMC will operate under this guidance when one or more of the counties in the Metro area (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) are at High Risk.**

**PMC is currently operating under High Risk.**

**Worship Services and PMC-Hosted Events (more than 25 people):** All worship services and other large-group events take place online or outdoors.

**Small Groups (fewer than 25 people):** The Lower Level and the Old Chapel is available for small group use (25 people maximum in each space). Masks/face coverings are required for all visitors to PMC's Meetinghouse. A small group may meet in PMC's Meetinghouse without practicing mask/face covering and physical distancing requirements if an identified group leader collects, compiles, and submits proof of vaccination status for all participants.<sup>1</sup>

**Outdoor Gatherings:** Outdoor gatherings are limited to 200 people maximum.<sup>2</sup> Masks/face coverings are not required<sup>3</sup> and participants will practice physical distancing of at least 6' between individuals, households, or assigned "pods." PMC strongly recommends that individuals who are unvaccinated or who are at risk for severe COVID-19 disease wear a mask/face covering when in outdoor large gatherings.

## MODERATE RISK

**PMC will operate under this guidance when all three counties in the Metro area (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) are at Moderate Risk.**

**Worship Services and PMC-Hosted Events (more than 25 people):** Indoor worship services are limited to **50 people** maximum. Masks/face coverings are required<sup>4</sup> and participants will practice physical distancing of at least 6' between individuals or households. PMC will establish a seating configuration to facilitate physical distancing requirements.

**Small Groups (fewer than 25 people):** The Lower Level and the Old Chapel is available for small group use (25 people maximum in each space). Masks/face coverings are required for all visitors to PMC's Meetinghouse. A small group may meet in PMC's Meetinghouse without

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<sup>1</sup> OHA Interim Guidance for Fully Vaccinated Individuals: Applicability and Enforcement of Mask, Face Covering and Face Shield Guidance and Physical Distancing Requirements in Public Settings (Effective Date: May 18, 2021)

<sup>2</sup> OHA Sector Risk Level Guidance Chart (Effective Date: May 27, 2021)

<sup>3</sup> OHA Statewide Reopening Guidance – Masks, Face Coverings, Face Shields (Effective Date: May 18, 2021)

<sup>4</sup> OHA Sector Guidance – Faith Institutions, Funeral Homes, Mortuaries and Cemeteries (Effective Date: May 20, 2021)

practicing mask/face covering and physical distancing requirements if an identified group leader collects, compiles, and submits proof of vaccination status for all participants.

Outdoor gatherings are limited to 250 people maximum.<sup>5</sup> Masks/face coverings are not required<sup>6</sup> and participants will practice physical distancing of at least 6' between individuals, households, or assigned "pods." PMC strongly recommends that individuals who are unvaccinated or who are at risk for severe COVID-19 disease wear a mask/face covering when in outdoor large gatherings.

## LOWER RISK

**PMC will operate under this guidance after all three counties in the Metro area (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) are at Lower Risk.**

**Worship Services and PMC-Hosted Events (more than 25 people):** Indoor worship services are limited to **100 people** maximum. Masks/face coverings are required<sup>7</sup> and participants will practice physical distancing of at least 6' between individuals or households. PMC will establish a seating configuration to facilitate physical distancing requirements.

**Small Groups (fewer than 25 people):** The Lower Level and the Old Chapel is available for small group use (25 people maximum in each space). Masks/face coverings are required for all visitors to PMC's Meetinghouse. A small group may meet in PMC's Meetinghouse without practicing mask/face covering and physical distancing requirements if an identified group leader collects, compiles, and submits proof of vaccination status for all participants.

**Outdoor Gatherings:** Outdoor gatherings are limited to 300 people maximum<sup>8</sup>, and participants will follow physical distancing requirements (see below). Masks/face coverings are not required<sup>9</sup> and participants will practice physical distancing of at least 6' between individuals, households, or assigned "pods." PMC strongly recommends that individuals who are unvaccinated or who are at risk for severe COVID-19 disease wear a mask/face covering when in outdoor large gatherings.

## RISK LEVELS LIFTED

**PMC will operate under this guidance after the State of Oregon lifts the risk level framework statewide once 70% of the population 16 and older has received a first vaccine dose.**

The building will be available for use, and we will follow any new guidance regarding masking and social distancing from the CDC and Oregon Health Authority.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> OHA Sector Risk Level Guidance Chart (Effective Date: May 27, 2021)

<sup>6</sup> OHA Statewide Reopening Guidance – Masks, Face Coverings, Face Shields (Effective Date: May 18, 2021)

<sup>7</sup> OHA Sector Guidance – Faith Institutions, Funeral Homes, Mortuaries and Cemeteries (Effective Date: May 20, 2021)

<sup>8</sup> OHA Sector Risk Level Guidance Chart (Effective Date: May 27, 2021)

<sup>9</sup> OHA Statewide Reopening Guidance – Masks, Face Coverings, Face Shields (Effective Date: May 18, 2021)

<sup>10</sup> OHA Get Vaccinated Oregon

## SUNNYSIDE MENNONITE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Sunnyside Mennonite Montessori School (SMMS) will operate following the guidance provided by Oregon Department of Education Early Learning Division and Oregon Health Authority in the most recent published version of the document [Health & Safety Guidelines for Child Care and Early Education Operating During COVID-19](#), including daily health screenings, physical distancing, mask wearing required for adults and encouraged for children, and daily cleaning/sanitizing of classroom materials and furnishings.